



DISTRICT DIALOG



Toledo students honored with Lego Robotics Participation Award.

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Welcome Letter from New Superintendent Karen Gray
 Dr. Karen Gray was awarded a 3-year contract as the new Superintendent for the Lincoln County School District. Her tenure will begin on July 1, 2018.

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Help Our Schools by Eating!
 Did you know Lincoln County School District children eat breakfast and lunch at no charge due to grant funding? Did you know that the grant relies in part on participation levels for continued funding?

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NEWS YOU CAN USE

by Kristin Bigler, Communications



Inclement Weather Closures

How do you know if school is closed due to inclement weather? Many parents and staff were happy to receive a text message on the day school was closed due to icy conditions and snow. This text was a new tool added to a variety of communication avenues you can use to find out if a school is closed.

Here is our "tool box" which anyone can use to find out if school is closed:

1. By 6 a.m., **local radio stations and major Portland TV news stations** are notified and begin making announcements.
2. A message is recorded on the **LCSD 24-hour Information Line: 541-265-4437**.
3. A **text message may be sent to all parents and staff by 6 a.m.** to the primary phone number on file.
4. By 6:30 a.m., we will update the **LCSD website www.lincoln.k12.or.us** with the current school closure information. The **district Facebook page** is another place to check for updates.

Staff will continue to use a phone tree system for internal notification in addition to these methods. Parents and guardians should be sure to keep their primary preferred phone numbers current through their child's school.

Spring Verification Coming

New this year, we will have pre-printed information about your child for the upcoming school year. At conference time, we'd like parents or guardians to review the information and verify accuracy. This will help streamline the actual school registration in August for the 2018-2019 school year.

A Taste of Kindergarten

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2018? We invite any incoming Kindergarten families to enjoy an Open House called, "A Taste of Kindergarten," which will allow you to meet teachers and key staff, familiarize your child with the school and enjoy some delicious food samples from our school menu. Dates and times are as follows: Oceanlake Elementary School Monday, May 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Crestview Heights Elementary School Monday, May 14 and May 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Toledo Elementary School Monday, May 14 and May 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Yaquina View Elementary Monday, May 14 and May 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.. All Kindergarten students will receive a "Welcome to LCSD" gift bag!

Free Summer LIFT Program

Will your child be starting kindergarten in the Fall? Help them prepare by enrolling in the LCSD Summer LIFT program. The program runs July 23 - August 17, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The classes are led by kindergarten teachers at your local elementary school. Questions, call 541-270-2456.

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NEW SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER



BACKGROUND

Dr. Karen Gray was selected after an exhaustive search process that included 18 applications, a 20-member screening committee vote, interviews, meet and greet sessions both in Parkrose School District and in Lincoln County, a background screening, and reference checks. She is the 2018 Superintendent of the Year for Oregon, and she is in the running for the National Superintendent of the Year from the American Association of School Administrators. Welcome, Dr. Gray!

Dear Lincoln County School District Staff, Students, and Community,

It is with great honor and my distinct pleasure to be your new superintendent. I would like you to know that I am an experienced superintendent, school and district administrator, and special education teacher/speech pathologist. I bring a passion, energy, and great love for education. I am super excited to meet you all and to begin to get to know this wonderful school district and gorgeous county.

I spent 17 years in the Coos Bay School District before spending the last 11 years as superintendent of the Parkrose School District in Portland. I was a speech pathologist and special education teacher for 18 years. I have always loved teaching and learning in the classroom. You will definitely see me in your schools and communities because my first order of business is getting to know everyone. I have no agenda except to listen, learn and become familiar with the school district. I want to learn everything about you!

I am grateful for this terrific opportunity and the chance to do great work with you all as a school-community team. We know that all kids can learn to high levels and reach their highest potential. I hope to inspire and motivate our schools and unique communities to work together for kids and families.

With gratitude and anticipation,

Karen Gray

TAFT ELEMENTARY KIDWIND WINNERS

by Rachel Martin, Taft Elementary 5th Grade Teacher

The Oregon Coast STEM Hub hosted the Oregon Coast Renewable Energy Challenge at the Hatfield Marine Science Center on March 6, 2018.

Student teams brought their solar-powered boats and wind turbines to test which designs produced the greatest results.

Rachel Martin, a 5th Grade Teacher at Taft Elementary took TAG students to the KidWind Challenge. The students won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place!

The teams presented their project posters and their device designs to judges who rated their poster presentations as well as the device tests.

The 1st and 2nd place teams were invited to compete in the national competition in Seattle.



The first-place team included Lilly Shippee, Ryley Rivas, Aiden Smith.



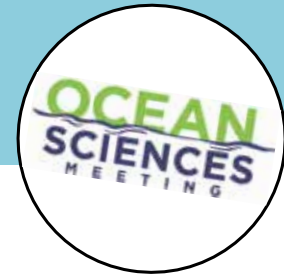
The second-place team included Casey Goodhue, Ava Lambie, Maya Freschi, and Marcos Bickford.



The third-place team included Carley Carlson, Ximena Sanchez, and Will Whipple.

OCEAN SCIENCES MEETING

by Kama Almasi, Teacher on Special Assignment - Ocean Literacy



On February 14, two groups of students from Toledo HS and Newport HS presented posters on their original research at the 2018 Ocean Sciences Meeting.

This is an annual meeting of professional scientists; this year their meeting was held in Portland, and for the first time ever, they decided to hold a K-12 Day. We had 3 groups of students submit abstracts; all three were accepted, but only two groups actually went. At the conference, the students were paired with a scientist mentor in the morning, practiced their presentations with the mentor, gave their presentations, attended talks, and met other scientists.

Toledo HS – Ten of Peter Lohonyay's advanced STEM students have been working on a project with a graduate student from OSU, Ian Black. They engineered an attachment device to connect CTDs to crab pots to make it easier for fishermen and scientists to collect ocean data that may affect crabs and other fisheries animals. A CTD is a device that collects data on Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth. Usually these are huge, expensive devices, but manufacturers have been creating smaller, affordable CTDs. Lohonyay's group experimented with the CTDs and designed and created the attachment device.



Newport High School student, Koa Smith, presented his IB Biology independent project on Oregon Dune Succession in which he looked at the impacts of invasive species and dune structure on native plant community structure and richness.



Participating Toledo High School students Gavin Chipman, Janella Fleaser, Dana Nyberg, Zachary Casberg, Darius King, Jakob Vineyard.

I SCHOOL BREAKFAST



STUDENTS WHO EAT BREAKFAST & LUNCH (AT NO CHARGE) HELP OUR SCHOOLS!

In order to encourage more families to take advantage of the healthy choices available for school breakfast, Lincoln County Schools celebrated **National School Breakfast Week**, April 2-6, 2018.

Busy weekday mornings make it a challenge for many families to find time for a healthy breakfast. However, US Department of Agriculture data shows, that an increasing number of students are starting their day with a nutritious breakfast in their school cafeterias. The School Breakfast Program currently serves more than 14 million students every day. Studies show that students who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in math
- Score higher on standardized tests
- Have better concentration, memory and alertness
- Have improved attendance, behavior, and academic performance
- Maintain a healthy weight

Did you know that breakfast and lunch are served to all of our students at no charge? If your child eats at school, their meal counts toward our ability to maintain this wonderful and vitally important benefit. As a district, we qualify for a community eligibility grant to provide meals to all children, but we need adequate participation to continue. Therefore, encouraging your kids to pick up a meal and eat helps all of our children in our schools.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOLS TEACHERS?

by Tiana Tucker, HR Director

Lincoln County School District employs approximately 300 teachers and another 150+ substitutes. Teachers teach anywhere from half time to full time in our eleven different schools, and teachers in their first and second year of teaching receive 90 hours of mentoring each year. While the average years of teacher experience is 9.5 years, 30% of our teachers have at least ten years of teaching experience. Of those 30% with at least 10 years of experience, 40% of them have been with LCSD 20 years or more! LCSD hires 50-60 licensed staff each year including speech language pathologists, school psychologists, nurses, elementary, and secondary teachers. LCSD has a competitive salary schedule compared to other Oregon districts (starting at \$43,137) and we seek to recruit and retain teachers who can teach multiple subjects and who are bilingual and/or bicultural. The number of teachers we hire who speak English and Spanish increases each year, and we are committed to continuing to hire teachers who can easily communicate with children and families in our growing population of Spanish speakers. LCSD is always looking to recruit, induct, and retain the highest quality of teachers to support students every day in academics, athletics, and their social emotional growth.

1st & 2nd year teachers receive **90 hrs** of mentoring

300 teachers
150 substitute teachers



The number of bilingual instructors increases every year

average years experience **9.5**

We're hiring! Check out current openings at www.lincoln.k12.or.us

AROUND TOWN

Rubik's Cube Champs!

In 1st Place at the State Rubik's Cube Championship...Taft Tigers! 25 cubes in under 4 minutes.



Tiny Home Soon Up for Sale

The Tiny Home shell built by Career and Technical Education students at Waldport High School will be up for auction later this Spring. Proceeds raised will help support the students on their next build.



Newport Middle Students Are Green

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Materials Management Program has awarded \$10,539 to the Lincoln County Solid Waste District who is joining forces with Thompson's Sanitary Service, LCSD schools, and Sodexo to prevent food waste, create composting programs and provide education about sustainable practices at Sam Case Elementary and Newport Middle School.



Love of Reading Month at Sam Case

Local celebrities, including Mrs. Shelley Moore, Principal at Sam Case Elementary, came to share a Love of Reading Dr. Seuss book. Others included LCSD Board Member Liz Martin and the Newport High School soccer team Back2Back State Champions.



SCHOOL BOARD

Ron Beck, *Chairman*
Amanda Remund,
Vice Chairman

Karen Bondley
Liz Martin
Jenny Demaris

VISION: "Every Child, Every Day"

MISSION: To develop passionate learners and responsible citizens.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

OUR STUDENTS MAKE ME PROUD AND GIVE ME HOPE...



By Tom Rinearson,
Superintendent

March 14 we had over 800 students walk out of our schools for 17 minutes to honor the 17 students who died in the Florida shooting and to have their voices heard: schools need to be a safe place for them. These students were from grades 5-12. Students worked with principals to understand District policy and state law around consequences for walking out of school. At one high school, the student leaders were heard telling their peers... "We chose to have our voices heard this way knowing there are consequences. We now need to own those consequences"... in an elementary school, 5th graders, who had heard that high schoolers had consequences asked their principal what their consequences were, because they understood that actions have consequences. The principal gave it back to them and asked what they thought the consequences should be... they jointly chose a detention during lunch. Nelson Mandela, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Susan B. Anthony are examples of great people who shared their voices knowing there would be consequences... they shared anyway...

OUR STUDENTS MAKE ME PROUD AND GIVE ME HOPE...

We had students choose not to walk out and still shared their voice... some were concerned the national movement was only about gun control and was not truly about the roots causes of school shootings... some looked at the consequences of walking and chose other forums in which to share their voice... some did not have an opinion one way or the other. To my knowledge, no student was ridiculed, called a name or disparaged in any way by other students for their beliefs or actions they took. They all came to this day with an underlying belief that schools should be a place where they feel safe... Adults and people in political power can learn from our students...

OUR STUDENTS MAKE ME PROUD AND GIVE ME HOPE...

After watching multiple news outlets last night and seeing the narrow focus, I paused and thought about the message our students were trying to send, whether they walked out or stayed in... Our students honored those who died... our students understood that when speaking up there may be consequences. They spoke up anyway... Our students treated each other with grace and dignity, no matter where they were on the political spectrum... Our students were beyond the narrow narrative portrayed by the media outlets. They want us to focus on root issues, not to get caught up in one solution... Our students want adults and politicians to stand up with them and come to real solutions... not to alienate each other because of beliefs... Our students rose to the occasion in a way far exceeding what I was seeing at a national level...

My concern now shifts to adults and the next couple of national walkouts coming in April... Parents, community members... Are we going to learn from our students and stand with them, in spite of consequences? Are we going to look at the consequences and decide to share our voice in a different way? Are we not going to treat those with different opinions with grace and dignity? Are we going to demand our politicians take a stand for making schools a place students feel safe? What are we going to do for our students in Lincoln County?

OUR STUDENTS MAKE ME PROUD AND GIVE ME HOPE!

Important Dates to Remember

April 25, Evening Conferences

April 26, Conferences NO SCHOOL

April 27, NO SCHOOL

May 25, NO SCHOOL

May 28, NO SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY

June 2, Newport High Graduation Only

June 9, High School Graduation WHS, THS, TOHS

June 15, All Other Students Last Day of School (half-day)